

1. (TWICE AMENDED) An information processing apparatus for displaying at least a character or an image in a first intended area, defined by a first magnification rate, in an enlarged form at [a] the first designated magnification rate on a screen of a display unit [and displaying at least a character or an image] in [an] a second intended area newly opened on the screen [in the enlarged form at the first magnification rate], comprising:

detection means for detecting whether a request for opening said second intended area is issued;

determining means for determining a second magnification rate for said second intended area that enlarges said first intended area to said second intended area from [said first magnification rate,] a size of [said] a first intended pre-enlarged area as displayed on the screen, and a size assigned to [said] a second intended after-enlarged area to be enlarged on the screen, when said detection means detects that a request is issued for opening said second intended area; and

enlarged display means for displaying said first intended area with said characters or said images in the area on the display screen in an enlarged form within said second intended area in accordance with said second magnification rate determined by said determining means.

2. (TWICE AMENDED) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said determining means includes:

means for correcting said second magnification rate upward in proportion to the difference between sizes of said first and second intended areas in the case where [the] a size of said second intended area as displayed on the screen is larger than [the] a size [assigned to] of said first intended area;

means for maintaining said second magnification rate as it is in the case where the size of said second intended area as displayed on the screen is equal to the size [assigned to] of said first intended area; and

means for correcting said second magnification rate downward in proportion to the difference between the sizes of said first and second intended areas in the case where the size of said second intended area as displayed on an enlarged screen is smaller than the size [assigned to] of said first intended area.

3. (ONCE AMENDED) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

    said determining means calculates said second magnification rate from [the] a size of said first intended area as displayed on the screen and from [the] a size of the whole display screen[; and

    said enlarged display means displays said intended area in an enlarged form on the display screen in accordance with said second magnification rate calculated by said determining means].

4. (TWICE AMENDED) An information processing apparatus for displaying at least a character or an image in a first intended area, defined by a first magnification rate, in an enlarged form at [a] the first designated magnification rate on a screen of a display unit [and displaying at least a character or an image] in [an] a second intended area newly opened on the screen [in the enlarged form at said first magnification rate], comprising:

    detection means for detecting whether a request for opening said second intended area is issued;

    determining means for determining a second magnification rate for said second intended area that enlarges said first intended area to said second intended area from [said first magnification rate,] a size of the character in [said] a first intended pre-enlarged area as displayed on the screen, and a size of the character in an area surrounding said first intended

area on said display screen when said detection means detects that a request is issued for opening said second intended area; and

enlarged display means for displaying said first intended area with said [character] characters or said [image] images in said first intended area on the display screen in an enlarged form within said second intended area in accordance with said second magnification rate determined by said determining means.

5. (ONCE AMENDED) An information processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said determining means includes:

means for correcting said second magnification rate upward in the case where the size of the character displayed in said second intended area in an enlarged form in which the size of characters having been in an area surrounding said first intended area [according to said first magnification rate] is larger than the size of the character displayed in the second intended area in an enlarged form in which the characters having been in said first intended area according to said second magnification rate;

means for maintaining said second magnification rate in the case where the size of the character displayed in said second intended area in the enlarged form in which the size of characters having been in an area surrounding said first intended area [according to said first magnification rate] is equal to the size of the character displayed in the second intended area in the enlarged form in which the characters having been in said first intended area according to said second magnification rate; and

means for correcting said second magnification rate downward in the case where the size of the character displayed in said second intended area in the enlarged form in which the size of characters having been in an area surrounding said first intended area [according to said first magnification rate] is [larger] smaller than the size of the character displayed in the second

intended area in the enlarged form in which the characters having been in said first intended area according to said second magnification rate.

6. (ONCE AMENDED) An information processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein:

    said determining means calculates said second magnification rate in such a manner that the size of the character displayed in said second intended area in an enlarged form in which the characters having been in an area surrounding said first intended area [according to the first magnification rate] is equal to the size of the character displayed in the second intended area in an enlarged form in which the characters having been in said first intended area according to said second magnification rate[; and

    said enlarged display means displays the character in said intended area in the enlarged form on said display screen in accordance with said second magnification rate calculated by said determining means].

7. (TWICE AMENDED) An information processing apparatus for displaying at least a character or an image in a first intended area, defined by a first magnification rate, in an enlarged form at [a] the first designated magnification rate on a screen of a display unit [and displaying at least a character or an image] in [an] a second intended area newly opened on the screen [in the enlarged form at the first magnification rate], comprising:

    detection means for detecting whether a request for opening said second intended area is issued;

    determining means for determining a second magnification rate of said second intended area as displayed on the screen that enlarges said first intended area to said second intended area from [the first magnification rate,] a size of the character in said first intended pre-enlarged area as displayed on the screen, and a specified character size [in the case where]

when said detection means detects that a request is issued for opening said second intended area; and

enlarged display means for displaying said first intended area with said [character] characters or said [image] images in said first intended area on the display screen in an enlarged form within said second intended area in accordance with said second magnification rate determined by said determining means.

8. (ONCE AMENDED) An information processing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said determining means includes:

means for correcting said second magnification rate upward in the case where the size of the character displayed in said second intended area in an enlarged form in which the size of characters having been in an area surrounding said first intended area [according to said first magnification rate] is larger than the size of the character displayed in the second intended area in an enlarged [formed] form in which the size of characters having been in said first intended area according to said second magnification rate;

means for maintaining said second magnification rate in the case where the size of the character displayed in the enlarged form in which the size of characters having been in an area surrounding said first intended area [according to said first magnification rate] is equal to the size of the character displayed in the second intended area in the enlarged form in which the characters having been in said first intended area according to said second magnification rate; and

means for correcting said second magnification rate downward in the case where the size of the character displayed in said second intended area in the enlarged form in which the size of characters having been in an area surrounding said first intended area [according to said first magnification rate] is [larger] smaller than the size of the character displayed in the second

intended area in the enlarged form in which the characters having been in said first intended area according to said second magnification rate.

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9. (ONCE AMENDED) An information processing apparatus for displaying at least a character or an image in a first intended area, defined by a first magnification rate, in an enlarged form at [a] the first designated magnification rate on a screen of a display unit [and displaying at least a character or an image] in [an] a second intended area newly opened on the screen [in the enlarged form at the first magnification rate], comprising:

scrolling means for scrolling said second intended area displayed in an enlarged form in a designated scrolling direction in response to a scroll request;

detection means for detecting whether the trailing end of said second intended area scrolled in said scrolling direction in accordance with the scrolling process by said scrolling means has reached a state displayable on said display screen when up to an area adjacent to and surrounding said second intended area is scrolled; and

prohibition means for prohibiting said second intended window from being further scrolled in said scrolling direction by said scrolling means in the case where said detection means detects that the trailing end of said second intended area is in a displayable state.

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10. (THREE TIMES AMENDED) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

memory means for storing the coordinate of at least a character [of] or an image in said first intended area which provides a trigger of opening said second intended area and are displayed on said display screen before opening said second intended area; and

restoration means for restoring and displaying on said display screen a display state of said second intended area immediately before being opened on the basis of the coordinate stored in said memory means when erasing said second intended area.

11. (TWICE AMENDED) A recording medium readable by a computer and having recorded therein a program used for realizing an information processing apparatus for displaying at least a character or an image in a first intended area defined by a first magnification rate in an enlarged form at [a] the first designated magnification rate on a screen of a display unit [and displaying at least a character or an image] in [an] a second intended area newly opened on the screen [in the enlarged form at said first magnification rate], said information processing apparatus comprising:

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detection means for detecting whether a request for opening said second intended area is issued;

determining means for determining a second magnification rate for said second intended area that enlarges said first intended area to said second intended area from [said first magnification rate,] a size of [said] a first intended pre-enlarged area as displayed on the screen, and a size assigned to [said] a second intended after-enlarged area to be displayed on the screen when said detection means detects that a request is issued for opening said second intended area; and

enlarged display means for displaying said first intended area with said characters or said images in the area on the display screen in an enlarged form within said second intended area in accordance with said second magnification rate determined by said determining means.

12. (TWICE AMENDED) A recording medium readable by a computer and having recorded therein a program used for realizing an information processing apparatus for displaying at least a character or an image in a first intended area defined by a first magnification rate in an enlarged form at [a] the first designated magnification rate on a screen of a display unit [and displaying at least a character or an image] in [an] a second intended area newly opened on the screen [in the enlarged form at said first magnification rate], said information processing apparatus comprising:

detection means for detecting whether a request for opening said second intended area is issued;

determining means for determining a second magnification rate of said second intended area that enlarges said first intended area to said second intended area [as displayed on the screen] from [said first magnification rate,] a size of a character in said first intended pre-enlarged area as displayed on the screen, and a size of the character in an area surrounding said first intended area on said display screen when said detection means detects that a request is issued for opening said second intended area; and

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enlarged display means for displaying said first intended area with the [character] characters or the [image] images in said first intended area on the display screen in the enlarged form within said second intended area in accordance with said second magnification rate determined by said determining means.

13. (TWICE AMENDED) A recording medium readable by a computer and having recorded therein a program used for realizing an information processing apparatus for displaying at least a character or an image in a first intended area defined by a first magnification rate in an enlarged form at [a] the first designated magnification rate on a screen of a display unit [and displaying at least a character or an image] in [an] a second intended area newly opened on the screen [in the enlarged form at said first magnification rate], said information processing apparatus comprising:

detection means for detecting whether a request for opening said second intended area is issued;

determining means for determining a second magnification rate [at which] of said second intended area [is] as displayed [in an enlarged form] on the screen, that enlarges said first intended area to said second intended area from [said first magnification rate,] a size of the character in said first intended pre-enlarged area as displayed on the screen, and a specified

character size when said detection means detects that a request for opening said second intended area is issued; and

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enlarged display means for displaying said first intended area with the [character] characters or [image] images in said first intended area on the display screen in an enlarged form within said second intended area in accordance with said second magnification rate determined by said determining means.

14. (ONCE AMENDED) A recording medium readable by a computer and having recorded therein a program used for realizing an information processing apparatus for displaying at least a character or an image in a first intended area defined by a first magnification rate in an enlarged form at [a] the first designated magnification rate on a screen of a display unit [and displaying at least a character or an image] in [an] a second intended area newly opened on the screen [at said first magnification rate], said information processing apparatus comprising:

scrolling means for scrolling said second intended area displayed in an enlarged form in a designated scrolling direction in response to a scroll request;

detection means for detecting whether the trailing end of said second intended area scrolled in said scrolling direction in accordance with the scrolling process by said scrolling means has reached a state displayable on said display screen when up to an area adjacent to and surrounding said second intended area is scrolled; and

prohibition means for prohibiting said second intended area from being further scrolled in said scrolling direction by said scrolling means in the case where said detection means detects that the trailing end of said second intended area is [displayed] in a displayable state.

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15. (THREE TIMES AMENDED) A recording medium readable by a computer and [further] having recorded therein a program used for realizing said information processing apparatus according to claim 11, said information processing apparatus comprising:

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memory means for storing the coordinate of at least a character or an image in said first intended area which provides a trigger of opening said second intended area displayed on said display screen before opening said second intended area; and

restoration means for restoring and displaying on said display screen a display state of said second intended area immediately before being opened on the basis of the coordinate stored in said memory means when erasing said second intended area.

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16. (TWICE AMENDED) An information processing apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising:

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memory means for storing the coordinate of at least a character [of] or an image in said first intended area which provides a trigger of opening said second intended area and are displayed on said display screen before opening said second intended area; and

restoration means for restoring and displaying on said display screen a display state of said second intended area immediately before being opened on the basis of the coordinate stored in said memory means when erasing said second intended area.

17. (TWICE AMENDED) An information processing apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising:

memory means for storing the coordinate of at least a character [of] or an image in said first intended area which provides a trigger of opening said second intended area and are displayed on said display screen before opening said second intended area; and

restoration means for restoring and displaying on said display screen a display state of said second intended area immediately before being opened on the basis of the coordinate stored in said memory means when erasing said second intended area.

18. (TWICE AMENDED) An information processing apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising:

memory means for storing the coordinate of at least a character [of] or an image in said first intended area which provides a trigger of opening said second intended area and are displayed on said display screen before opening said second intended area; and

restoration means for restoring and displaying on said display screen a display state of said second intended area immediately before being opened on the basis of the coordinate stored in said memory means when erasing said second intended area.

19. (TWICE AMENDED) An information processing apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising:

memory means for storing the coordinate of at least a character [of] or an image in said first intended area which provides a trigger of opening said second intended area and are displayed on said display screen before opening said second intended area; and

restoration means for restoring and displaying on said display screen a display state of said second intended area immediately before being opened on the basis of the coordinate stored in said memory means when erasing said second intended area.

20. (TWICE AMENDED) An information processing apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising:

memory means for storing the coordinate of at least a character [of] or an image in said first intended area which provides a trigger of opening said second intended area and are displayed on said display screen before opening said second intended area; and

restoration means for restoring and displaying on said display screen a display state of said second intended area immediately before being opened on the basis of the coordinate stored in said memory means when erasing said second intended area.

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21. (TWICE AMENDED) An information processing apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising:

memory means for storing the coordinate of at least a character [of] or an image in said first intended area which provides a trigger of opening said second intended area and are displayed on said display screen before opening said second intended area; and

restoration means for restoring and displaying on said display screen a display state of said second intended area immediately before being opened on the basis of the coordinate stored in said memory means when erasing said second intended area.

22. (TWICE AMENDED) An information processing apparatus according to claim 8, further comprising:

memory means for storing the coordinate of at least a character [of] or an image in said first intended area which provides a trigger of opening said second intended area and are displayed on said display screen before opening said second intended area; and

restoration means for restoring and displaying on said display screen a display state of said second intended area immediately before being opened on the basis of the coordinate stored in said memory means when erasing said second intended area.

23. (TWICE AMENDED) An information processing apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising:

memory means for storing the coordinate of at least a character [of] or an image in said first intended area which provides a trigger of opening said second intended area and are displayed on said display screen before opening said second intended area; and

restoration means for restoring and displaying on said display screen a display state of said second intended area immediately before being opened on the basis of the coordinate stored in said memory means when erasing said second intended area.

24. (TWICE AMENDED) A recording medium readable by a computer and [further] having recorded therein a program used for realizing said information processing apparatus according to claim 12, said information processing apparatus comprising:

memory means for storing the coordinate of at least a character or an image in said first intended area which provides a trigger of opening said second intended area displayed on said display screen before opening said second intended area; and

restoration means for restoring and displaying on said display screen a display state of said second intended area immediately before being opened on the basis of the coordinate stored in said memory means when erasing said second intended area.

25. (TWICE AMENDED) A recording medium readable by a computer and [further] having recorded therein a program used for realizing said information processing apparatus according to claim 13, said information processing apparatus comprising:

memory means for storing the coordinate of at least a character or an image in said first intended area which provides a trigger of opening said second intended area displayed on said display screen before opening said second intended area; and

restoration means for restoring and displaying on said display screen a display state of said second intended area immediately before being opened on the basis of the coordinate stored in said memory means when erasing said second intended area.

26. (TWICE AMENDED) A recording medium readable by a computer and [further] having recorded therein a program used for realizing said information processing apparatus according to claim 14, said information processing apparatus comprising:

memory means for storing the coordinate of at least a character or an image in said first intended area which provides a trigger of opening said second intended area displayed on said display screen before opening said second intended area; and

restoration means for restoring and displaying on said display screen a display state of said second intended area immediately before being opened on the basis of the coordinate stored in said memory means when erasing said second intended area.